labour was engaged on casual basis in the Corporation; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that they are allowed only 19 days attendance in a month, and they are not allotted the jobs as agreed to by both the parties in point number 4 of page 3 of the said agreement of 16th February, 1988 and such jobs are again being awarded to the 243 contract labourers on contract basis ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The jobs are being given to the empanelled casual workers as per agreement dated February 16, 1988.

मध्य प्रदेश के खरसिया शहर में एल० पी० जी० गैस एजेंसी का खोला जाना

4741. श्री लक्खीराम अग्रवाल : क्या **पेट्रोलियम** और **प्राकृतिक गैस** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्ष 1994-95 के दौरान सरकार मध्य प्रदेश के कौन-कौन से जिलों और शहरों में एल० पी० जी० गैस एजेंसियां खोलने पर विचार कर रही है;

(ख) क्या सरकार रायगढ़ जिले के खरसिया शहर में गैस एजेंसी खोलने पर विचार कर रही है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो उसे कब तक खोला जायेगा और यदि नहीं, तो उसके न खोले जाने के कारण क्या हैं?

(घ) क्या रायगढ़ तथा विशेष रूप से खरसिया शहर में गैस एजेंसी खोलने के लिये कुछ संसद सदस्यों ने सरकार से सिफारिश की है; और

(ङ) उस पर अब तक क्या कार्रवाई की गई है ?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (कैप्टन सतीश शर्मा) : (क) वर्ष 1994-95 के लिये एल० पी० जी० विपणन योजना अभी तक तैयार नहीं हुई है।

(ख) और (ग) अपर्याप्त मांग संभावना के कारण खरसिया शहरी क्षेत्र में एल० पी० जी० वितरण केन्द्र की स्थापना करना फिलहाल आर्थिक दृष्टि से व्यवहार्य नहीं होगा ।

(घ) और (ङ) खरसिया शहरी क्षेत्र और जिला रायगढ़ मध्य प्रदेश, सहित विभिन्न स्थानों के लिये समय-समय पर सिफारिशें प्राप्त होती रही हैं । उद्योग की व्यवहार्यता सम्बन्धी शर्तों को पूरा करने वाले 20,000 और उससे ऊपर की आबादी वाले स्थानों को उत्पाद की उपलब्धता के आधार पर चरणबद्ध रूप में एल० पी० जी० के वितरण केन्द्र की स्थापना के लिये एल० पी० जी० की विपणन योजना में शामिल किया जाता है।

Sending SC/ST Officers for Training Abroad

4742. SHRI E. BALANANDAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the percentage of SC/ST officers to be sent for training abroad;

(b) whether it is a fact that out of 172 officers sent on foreign training from Institute of Reservoir Studies of ONGC at Chandkhedda, Ahmedabad from 1978, only 18 were from SC/ST categories; and

(c) what steps have been taken to ensure proper representation of SC/ST i.e. 25 per cent, in these trainings ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA) : No specific and fixed percentage has been prescribed for SC/ST officers to be sent for training abroad.

(b) Since the inception of ONGS's Institute of Reservoir Studies in 1978, a total of 113 Officers have been sent abroad for the purpose of training, conference, seminar or on business trips, in a need-based manner. Out of them, 18 happened to belong to SC/ST.

(c) Does not arise in view of the reply to part (a) above.

Sending of Officers for Training in UDNP

4743. SHRI E. BALANANDAN : Will the Minister of PETRILEUM and NATURAL GAS be please to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the last batch of officers who have joint a year or so back was sent for UNDP while officers of 1985 batch are yet to be sent for this programme;

(b) if so, details of officers not sent for training and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a general category lady officer who joined ONGC only two years back has been nominated leaving senior SC/ST officers; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA) : (a) and (b) Presumably, this Question concerns ONGC's Institute of Reservoir Studies, Ahmedabad. No such officer of this Institute who has joined a year or so back, has been sent for training under UNDP.

Out of the 37 officers of 1985 batch of this Institute, 18 officers have already been deputed or are being deputed for training under UNDP. Two officers have been deputed for other training. One officer is on extra ordinary leave for study purposes in USA. Out of the remaining officers, four have been nominated for World Bank and ADB programmes. The remaining 12 officers have not been nominated so far for any such training

(c) and (d) A lady officer who joined the Institute about three years back was nominated for training under UNDP, as per the decision taken by the Committee consisting of the representatives of the Government of India UNDP, and ONCS to nominate suitable women representative.

Resentment on privatisation of ONGC

4744. SHRI S. AUSTIN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM and NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Resentment in North-East over ONGC's privatisation moves" appearing in the Pioneer dated 2nd February, 1994; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA) : (a) and (b) Some apprehensions regarding development of small and medium sized oil/gas field by private companies had been raised by the employees of ONGC. Discussions have been held by the management with the employees to explain to them the rational of the scheme.

Action Plan of ONGC to Train SC/ST Officers

4745. SHRI E. BALANANDAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM and NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) what are the action plan of ONGC to train SC/ST officers abroad through direct on the job training, work associated and by visits abroad ;

(b) whether it is a fact that officers from general category have been sent 7 to 8 times abroad ; and

(c) if so, what is the action plan to remove this disparity ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA) : (a) Officers from ONGC Ltd. are sent for training, work association abroad based on their fulfilling the criteria of eligibility for the programme concerned.